

PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

TO THE MINISTRY OF THE
WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD



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REPORT FROM THE TREASURER'S OFFICE

October 21, 1982

I know you are anxious to hear how things are going financially. We should have a complete financial report early in November.

Quite a number of people have asked about the holy day offerings. We do have that information. The figures may not be the "final-final" figures, as some late offerings are still coming in. Here is how much each offering exceeded the previous holy day in 1981:

First Day of Unleavened Bread	2.9%
Last Day of Unleavened Bread	4.6%
Pentecost	12.9%
Trumpets	14.9%
Atonement	11.4%
Feast of Tabernacles	8.7%
Last Great Day	<u>7.3%</u>
AVERAGE TOTAL	8.8%

So far, the year-to-date figure for income is a little ahead of the holy day figure. Such a small increase reflects the present economic climate and unemployment figures. Please continue to pray that the "increase will increase" so that more can be done to expand in media and publishing.

--Leroy Neff, Treasurer

FROM MINISTERIAL SERVICES

FOT Sermon Tape Distribution

A frequently-asked question since the Feast has been regarding the availability of copies of the sermons from the Feast site that your Church was assigned to. We appreciate the fact that everyone is anxious to hear the sermons he has missed, but we must ask for patience. It is quite an undertaking for Radio Production to sort out everything and to prepare for the mailing. It will probably be about a month before they are ready. We will let you know when that time comes.

Ministerial WATS Line Clarification

In the September 20, 1982 issue of the PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT reference was made to the ministerial WATS line as a "number in MPC." As a clarification, the ministerial WATS line (800-423-4464) rings at the college switchboard. Once someone has called this number and been connected to his destination, he can be transferred anywhere on campus.

Appreciation for the Second Ministerial Refreshing Program

Dear Mr. Armstrong and Mr. Tkach:

My wife Hannah and I would like to express our heartfelt appreciation for Ministerial Refreshing Program II, session #10. As has been expressed in many of the letters thanking you for past refresher sessions, ours was also a tremendous success.

For the entire two weeks of our stay we were given many wonderful blessings. The entire program was one of giving of the very best, from the excellent physical food to the inspiring and uplifting spiritual "food." In many ways we feel that we are the least of God's servants, but we will strive to give out to God's people some of the tremendous things we were given at the Refreshing Program.

I don't know of any other organization that would provide such an experience as God's Church does through Mr. Armstrong and his assistants. From the bottom of our hearts we would like to thank all of those involved who made it such a memorable experience!

John and Hannah Knaack

Dear Mr. Tkach:

Kay and I really appreciated being able to come out to Pasadena again to be instructed, inspired, corrected and directed by you and all the others on God's Headquarters team! We were spiritually refreshed and have returned here to the Wausau area with a renewed desire to serve God's people as you all served us. Thank you for the good example! We will strive to pass the same along to the brethren. We are grateful for all your hard work and labor. Please thank the others again for us!

Norm and Kay Strayer

Dear Mr. Tkach:

I would like to thank you and your staff for the second Refreshing Program. It was indeed inspiring to see God's guidance throughout all the sessions. The highlight for us was Mr. Armstrong's personal address to the ministers. I was also very moved by the lecture "A Worldwide Work--not by might or power" and the session on the Work in the United States.

We look forward to returning home with renewed zeal and enthusiasm for God's Work. We have been truly refreshed.

Peter and Charlotte Whitting

Mr. Tkach:

Thank you so much for allowing Sandra and me the opportunity to attend the Refreshing Program. The classes gave a tremendous overview of God's Work and what is expected of His ministry. It was inspiring to see the wholehearted support that is being given to God's Apostle in completing the Commission.

We are thankful that we were able to see and be taught by Mr. Armstrong. His address was delivered with so much love, humility, and power.

It was a real eye-opener to be at Headquarters and see the magnitude and scope of God's Work. It truly is a miracle that so much is being accomplished by so few.

We also appreciated your taking the time to talk with us. I thoroughly enjoy being a part of God's ministry. It's such a fantastic calling to be able to serve God's chosen people.

David and Sandra Fentress
--Joe Tkach, Ministerial Services

UPDATE FROM MAIL PROCESSING

Catching Up With the Feast Backlog

The Mail Processing staff enjoyed a tremendous festival season. All are now back on the job catching up with the Feast backlog. Thankfully the backlog amounts to only 115,000 pieces of mail, not counting holy day offering envelopes. This low inventory is made possible by beefing up the Mail Processing staff and training on-call employees to help in peak mail situations. Teamwork and cooperation have also played a major role in minimizing the backlog. We are looking forward to a great year.

First Contacts With God's Work

People come in contact with God's Work in unusual and varied ways. Here are some remarkable accounts of what first prompted interest in the Work for certain individuals.

The other day I was walking through town when I found a copy of your magazine laying on a street corner. I picked it up and took it to the city park to read. I must confess that I didn't leave the park until I had read the whole magazine. I was very impressed by it. I would like it very much if you would start sending me your monthly printings of The PLAIN TRUTH.

J.M. (Paso Robles, CA)

Every Sunday morning since the last Sunday in October a year ago, I have been enchanted listening to your Godly programs on television. On that Sunday last October I was not sure if it was the day the clock should have been turned back an hour. I turned on the TV as a clue. I then became acquainted with you for the first time.... There is always something of value to look forward to. You have enlightened me with your magnetic instructions.

Mrs. P.V. (Broomall, PA)

Several weeks ago, my husband and I were spending the night at the Stockton Inn, in Stockton, California. The following morning, which was Sunday, we happened to turn on the TV to catch up on the latest news and tuned in on a program already in progress. It happened to be your meeting with President Mubarak. At the end of the program, I copied your name and address and sent away

for a free copy of The PLAIN TRUTH. Ater reading the magazine from cover to cover, I was so uplifted and spellbound that I would like to receive all the booklets and whatever else you have to offer.

Mrs. A.H. (Hayward, CA)

I just wanted to tell you something that was strange but interesting for me. One early Sunday morning I was lying in bed, trying desperately to wake up and was about to fall into a deep sleep, when all of a sudden I just got up, said "good morning" to my wife, and went to turn on the TV, knowing very well that there wasn't going to be anything on but religious programs, which I really don't care for. The WORLD TOMORROW came on with Herbert W. Armstrong and I listened and believed in something he said. I never cared for religion that much but there was something that caught my interest. I really don't know what it was but would like to find out more, so I'm writing to you to ask if you would send me the advertised booklet.

M.Y. (Davis, CA)

I was first introduced to your magazine through a police officer, who at that time was here on my job for security purposes. I always wondered why he read so much and what it was that seemed so awfully engrossing, and how he could sit there and look so at ease and calm. I finally got the nerve to ask him, and he let me take home one of your fine magazine editions. I loved it, so he gave me a little card to fill out to order my own subscription. I did and am very pleased with it.

D.C. (Atlanta, GA)

My cousin works on a garbage route and found the cover of your March, 1982 magazine. We are both Christians, and we were very interested in finding out more about the booklets called WHO IS THE BEAST? and DOES GOD EXIST? Please let us know how we may receive them and the magazine.

M.H. (Columbus, OH)

I work for the Post Office and one day had to sort non-profit and third class mail. Employees are not allowed to look at books or magazines but I was slightly bored and depressed that day. I came across two booklets you published and would really appreciate copies of my own to read.

A.M. (So. River, NJ)

--Richard Rice, Mail Processing Center

ON THE WORLD SCENE

THE SURPRISINGLY ACTIVE CHANCELLOR KOHL:
HOW LONG WILL HIS "HONEYMOON" LAST?

In his first few days in the Chancellery, West Germany's Helmut Kohl has gotten off to pretty much of a flying start, establishing himself both on the international scene and on the domestic front. He seems to be trying to display both a sense of continuity in the West German government and a determination to cautiously change things where they must be changed.

Herr Kohl's tempo has been fast. He surprised everybody by making his first international visit immediately following his initial cabinet meeting. He popped over to Paris to pay his respects to French President Francois Mitterrand. French government officials were delighted, of course, that Herr Kohl visited them first rather than going to Washington (which Kohl has said he would visit shortly). The quick trip thereby helped soothe French hurt at the demise of Bonn's socialist government. The WESTDEUTSCHE ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG also reported favorably on Herr Kohl's first official international contact:

With his spontaneous first visit immediately after taking office, the new Chancellor has presented himself in Paris in a positive light. The transition from Schmidt to Kohl could hardly have been smoother. This is a symbol which proclaims priority and continuity of French-German relations....Contrary to prematurely voiced concerns, the new chapter of cooperation has had a good start.

NORDDEUTSCHER RUNDFUNK (North German Radio) commented on October 4, 1982:

Helmut Kohl, the newcomer to foreign policy, with his visit to the Elysee Palace seized the opportunity for an international entree...which may enhance the profile of the new CDU Chancellor. For the French President it is important to neutralize, through swift cooperation with Bonn, the anticipated pressure which the French economy...is liable to face.

About a week later, on October 13, in his first major policy statement to the Bundestag, Chancellor Kohl outlined Bonn's foreign and domestic (meaning economic) directions. On the foreign affairs front, Herr Kohl pledged to "strengthen and stabilize" West Germany's ties with the United States. Detente is by no means dead, but Bonn will pursue more of a realistic, slightly distanced relationship to the Soviet Union (which, of course, was sorry to see Schmidt depart). Bonn will stick to NATO's "twin-track" decision to talk to Moscow in Geneva about limiting new intermediate range nuclear weapons, but to support the U.S. in deploying them if no agreement is reached (guaranteeing a showdown with the anti-nuclear "Greens").

Outlining his new economic agenda before the Bundestag, Kohl declared, almost reminiscent of the late John F. Kennedy, "The question for the future is not how much the state can do for its citizens...but how to make freedom, dynamism and self-reliance blossom again." In other words, Germans need to return to their once-hallowed work ethic and not depend so much on the government. Saying the state and the taxpayers are being progressively overburdened, Kohl noted that the country's extensive social security system had been based on "optimistic predictions of constant economic growth." Now, he said, West Germany is in its "worst economic crisis" since it was founded, with productivity and capital formation declining, bankruptcies at an all-time high, and unemployment expected to reach 2.5 million (up from 1.85 million now) this winter.

Kohl announced an "emergency program" of cuts in government spending to revive the economy and "preserve the social state by strengthening its economic basis." The Chancellor called the cuts a "breathing space" in

social policy. "To strengthen the financial foundation of our 'social net,' [similar to Mr. Reagan's "safety net"] we must ask our citizens to make sacrifices," he said. Not exactly supply-side economics, but then West Germany's commitment to the welfare state is much deeper in time than America's. In fact, the German concept of social welfare goes back to the "Iron Chancellor," Bismarck.

Herr Kohl's Dilemma, Herr Strauss' Caution

Commenting about Chancellor Kohl's chances for success, especially on the economically-depressed home front, London's FINANCIAL TIMES observed, in its October 15, 1982 edition:

All this still needs fleshing out and, above all, time. Dr. Kohl himself admits that it will take years to get an exploding budget deficit under control. The interesting question is whether that time will be granted to him and to his coalition of Christian Democrats (in close alliance with Herr Franz Josef Strauss' Christian Social Union in Bavaria) and the Free Democrats.

Thus Herr Kohl is in a race against time, much as is President Reagan. It takes time to turn a wayward economy around, but impatient voters, especially those holding "pink slips" (redundancy notices) are hardly in a mood to view events from a long-term perspective. They may be in an angry frame of mind come March 6, 1983, the date tentatively set for the next federal elections.

For this reason, if none other, Bavaria's Franz Josef Strauss declined to take either the finance or economics cabinet posts. (No one else from Strauss' Christian Social Union has accepted those cabinet posts either.) Why be blamed for something over which one has no control? Instead Herr Strauss is "sitting this cabinet out." But to make his influence felt, he engineered for his top lieutenant of 35 years, Friedrich Zimmermann, to be appointed as Interior Minister, the number two cabinet post, next in importance to that of Foreign Minister.

Strauss: Content for Now to Be the Power-behind-the-throne

After the Bavarian state elections of October 10, Strauss and his CSU are once again, as always, firmly in control of "Freistaat Bayern"--the Free State of Bavaria. The "turncoat" FDP was trounced, failing to gain legislative representation. Even the "Greens" couldn't clear the five percent hurdle as they have in six other lander (states). The FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU, on October 11, observed that for the CSU its victory must be seen as a confirmation of Strauss' warning of the folly of an alliance with the "Genscher troop." The NEUE RUHR ZEITUNG of the same date commented that the most important effect on Bonn will be Strauss' increased political clout within the Union (the CDU/CSU):

The confirmation by the voters [in Bavaria] is a confirmation of Strauss' concept regarding Bonn's course....One can expect that even more than before, Strauss will influence the course of events. Chancellor Kohl should prepare himself.

Once bitter rivals for control of the combined CDU/CSU destiny, Kohl and Strauss have settled into an "understanding" relationship. The ECONOMIST

of Britain, in its August 14, 1982 edition (before the government turnover) put it this way.

The middle-of-the-road Mr. Kohl and the romantic conservative Mr. Strauss have not become chums, but their relationship has improved in recent years. Mr. Kohl is shrewd enough to realise that he would not have much of a political future without Bavarian backing. So since the 1980 election he has tried to butter up Mr. Strauss and to listen to his advice. Mr. Strauss was the Christian Democrats' candidate for chancellor in 1980 but he has no intention of making a second bid; and he seems to have decided that Mr. Kohl is the best available candidate now.

I thought that the above analysis and news excerpts would be helpful, in addition to what was presented last week, in placing the current West German political scene into proper perspective.

--Gene H. Hogberg, News Bureau